PTP POSTS 8PC THROUGHPUT GROWTH

Port operator handled 9.8m TEUs last year despite uncertainties

KUALA LUMPUR

PORT of Tanjung Pelepas (PTP) registered a more than eight per cent growth in total throughput to 9.8 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) last year despite the global economic uncertainties.

Chairman Datuk Seri Che Khalib Mohamad Noh said PTP continued to strengthen its position as one of the main transshipment hubs in the region.

He said last year, PTP invested more than RM700 million to improve its container handling capacity by procuring eight super post-panamax quay cranes and 10 electrified rubber-tyred gantries, and dredging the port's channel to ensure ultra-large container vessels could safely navigate to the port.

Port of Tanjung Pelepas invested more than RM700 million to improve its container handling capacity last year.

"By investing in our assets, we are further establishing our terminal as one of the best equipped and most technologically advanced ones in the region and will ensure that PTP can keep up with the rapid changes in the port and shipping industry, and subsequently meet the growing demand of our customers" said Che Khalib.

PTP is a joint venture between MMC Group and the Hague-based APM Terminals.

PTP chief executive officer Marco Neelsen said the growth was derived from the surge in transshipment volume due to increased demand in Asia and Europe.

"Despite some challenges during the second quarter of financial year 2020, the second half was very positive for PTP, with an upsurge of volume due to the opening of countries' borders and revival of global trade.

"PTP's readiness to handle these demands had cushioned the downside scenario and impact of a sluggish global trade as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the measures taken by countries to halt the pandemic," he said.

PTP achieved a string of record-breaking performances last year, including handling a record 967,783 TEUs as well as having the highest moves in a single shift with a total of 12,411 moves (19,984 TEUs) last month.